

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-12 DPW-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25 RSR-01 /141 W
----- 033556

P R 110833 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1527

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8323

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: DAILY MR 3 SITREP 10 MAY 1973

FOLLOWING RECIEVED FROM AMCONSUL BIEN HOA BEING REPEATED

QUOTE

BIEN HOA 0119

SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 10 MAY 1973

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS MILI VS

1. COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN MR 3 REMAINED AT A LOW LEVEL DURING THE 24- HOUR PERIOD ENDING 0800 HOURS 10 MAY. THERE WERE 20 COMMUNIST- INITIATED INCIDENTS REPORTED CONSISTING OF 8 ATTACKS BY FIRE (ABF), 6 GROUND CONTACTS, 3 MINE INCIDENTS, 2 SNIPINGS, AND 1 GROUND- TO- AIR FIRING INCIDENT. TOTAL CASUALTIES REPORTED IN THE REGION DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD WERE 5 FRIENDLY KILLED, 18 WOUNDED, AND 25 COMMUNISTS KILLED. TON LE CHAM RANGER BASE CAMP RECEIVED 142 ROUNDS OF MIXED 61 MM AND 82 MM MORTAR FIRE. NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED. THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUED USING LOUDSPEAKERS ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE THE RANGERS TO SURRENDER THE CAMP. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT COMMUNIST- INITIATED INCIDENT OCCURRED IN LONG AN PROVINCE WHEN AN UNKNOWN SIZE COMMUNIST FORCE ATTACKED THE 332 ND RF BATTALION 7 KMS EAST OF CAN GIUOC
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DISTRICT TOWN. RESULTS WERE 5 FRIENDLY WOUNDED AND 11 COMMUNISTS KILLED. LONG AN SECTOR HEADQUARTERS LAUNCHED AN OPERATION IN TAN TRU DISTRICT AND MADE CONTACT WITH AN UNKNOWN SIZE COMMUNIST FORCE 4 KMS EAST OF TAN TRU DISTRICT TOWN. RESULTS WERE 10 COMMUNISTS KILLED AND NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES. AT 1700 HOURS 9 MAY IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE A VNAF WORK HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN 6 KMS EAST OF LONG THANH DISTRICT TOWN WOUNDING 1 CREW MEMBER. THE DOWNED HELICOPTER WAS RECOVERED AN HOUR LATER. IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE THE 322 ND RF BATTALION RECEIVED 15 ROUNDS OF 82 MM MORTAR FIRE FOLLOWED BY A GROUND ATTACK 7 KMS NORTHWEST OF PHU HOA DISTRICT TOWN. RESULTS WERE 1 FRIENDLY KILLED, 1 WOUNDED. 2 COMMUNISTS KILLED AND 1 CAPTURED. MINOR INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN BINH DUONG, TAY NINH, HAU NGHIA, GIA DINH AND LONG KHANH PROVINCES.

2. 666 ETHNIC VIETNAMESE FROM CAMBODIA CROSSED THE BORDER AND ARE NOW TEMPORARILY HOUSED IN THE PHUOC DIEN MARKET AREA IN TAY NINH PROVINCE. THESE REFUGEES, WHO FLED VIET CONG CONTROL BECAUSE THE VC/NVA PLANNED TO KILL THEM, SAID MORE ETHNIC VIETNAMESE IN CAMBODIA WANT TO CROSS TO AREAS UNDER GVN CONTROL. THE REFUGEES ARE PRESENTLY RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICE OF TAY NINH PROVINCE.

3. COLONEL LONG, VIETNAMESE DELEGATE TO THE TPJMC TOLD A CG POLOFF THAT THE RANKING HUNGARIAN CIVILIAN DELEGATE FOR ICCS REGION V SAID THAT A HIGH LEVEL MEETING OF REGION V ICCS DELEGATES WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO CORRECT THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE KEPT THE ICCS IN REGION V FROM REACHING A MEANINGFUL UNANIMOUS VOTE. LONG ADDED THAT HE REPORTED THIS CONVERSATION IMMEDIATELY TO SAIGON. COLONEL LONG ALSO SAID THAT THE VIET CONG DELEGATES TO THE TPJMC TALKS IN SAIGON PROPOSED FEWER SITES, RESPONSIBLE FOR LARGER AREAS, ON A TRIAL BASIS, FOR EVERY TPJMC SUB- REGIONAL TEAM EXCEPT THOSE OPERATING IN REGION V. THE GVN RESPONSE WAS TO CALL ON THE VIET CONG TO STAFF FULLY THE ORIGINALLY AGREED UPON SUB- REGIONAL SITES.

4. AT A MEETING WEDNESDAY CHAIRED BY DR. DAN, IT WAS DECIDED TO MOVE ABOUT 11,000 MONTAGNARD REFUGEES FROM BINH LONG, NOW IN THE AN LOI REFU

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON08323
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730542/aaaaivzr.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <04-Oct-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980130
Subject: DAILY MR 3 SITREP 10 MAY 1973 FOLLOWING RECIEVED FROM AMCONSUL BIEN HOA BEING REPEATED QUOTE BIEN HOA 0119
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TAGS: PINS, MILI, PINT
To: EA
JEC PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005